

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Claude E. Brown  
Issued Patent No.: 5,848,492  
Patent Issue Date: December 15, 1998  
For: AGRICULTURAL  
METHODS WITH  
SUPERHEATED STEAM

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number  
EL 419298919US

I hereby certify that this paper, accompanying documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Reissue, Washington, DC 20231

December 15, 2000  
Date

Joel Drake  
Joel Drake

Attorney Docket: 800132-15

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 37 C.F.R. § 1.173**

BOX: REISSUE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the reissuance of the above-referenced patent.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the following claims:

11. (Amended) A method [for defoliating grape vines] comprising:  
generating a flow of superheated steam; and  
delivering the flow of superheated steam to a plant sufficient to at least partially defoliate said plant [basal leaves adjacent to developing grape berries].